

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

12. (currently amended) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:
a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;
an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon; and
having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including
a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall
section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall
section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, and
a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured at a first
end to a cylindrical wall section and at a second end to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall
section wherein the first and second ends of the S-shape connectors each emerge laterally with
respect to a longitudinal axis of ~~from~~ the wall section and the connectors are configured to
provide both expansion and contraction between adjacent cylindrical wall sections.
13. (withdrawn) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the S-shaped connectors
comprise a double curvature shape.
14. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the S-shape
connectors are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall section.
15. (withdrawn) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the S-shape connectors
are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall sections.
16. (currently amended) The assembly of any claims 12 to 15, wherein the S-
shaped connectors, connect at least some of the longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall sections

extending along an intermediate section of the tubular body ~~stent~~ which is disposed between ends of the tubular body ~~stent~~.

17. (currently amended) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:

a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;

an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, having an unexpanded and expanded configuration; and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured at a first end to a cylindrical wall section and at a second end to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section wherein the first and second ends of the S-shape connectors each emerge laterally with respect to a longitudinal axis of ~~from~~ the wall section and the connectors are configured to provide a flexibility in both the expanded and unexpanded configurations.

Claims 18-22 (cancelled).

23. (new) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:

a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;

an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon; and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured at a first end to a cylindrical wall section and at a second end to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section wherein the first and second ends of the S-shape connectors each emerge angularly with

respect to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body and the connectors are configured to provide both expansion and contraction between adjacent cylindrical wall sections.

24. (new) The assembly of claim 23, wherein the S-shape connectors are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall section.

25. (new) The assembly of claim 23, wherein the S-shaped connectors, connect at least some of the longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall sections extending along an intermediate section of the tubular body which is disposed between ends of the tubular body.

26. (new) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:
a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;
an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, having an unexpanded and expanded configuration; and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured at a first end to a cylindrical wall section and at a second end to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section wherein the first and second ends of the S-shape connectors each emerge angularly with respect to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body and the connectors are configured to provide a flexibility in both the expanded and unexpanded configurations.

27. (new) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:
a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;
an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon; and
having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall

section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured at a first end to a cylindrical wall section and at a second end to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section wherein the first and second ends of the S-shape connectors each emerge at an offset configuration with respect to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body and the connectors are configured to provide both expansion and contraction between adjacent cylindrical wall sections.

28. (new) The assembly of claim 27, wherein the S-shape connectors are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall section.

29. (new) The assembly of claim 27, wherein the S-shaped connectors, connect at least some of the longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall sections extending along an intermediate section of the tubular body which is disposed between ends of the tubular body.

30. (new) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:
a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;
an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, having an unexpanded and expanded configuration; and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured at a first end to a cylindrical wall section and at a second end to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section wherein the first and second ends of the S-shape connectors each emerge at an offset configuration with respect to a longitudinal axis of the tubular body and the connectors are configured to provide a flexibility in both the expanded and unexpanded configurations.